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GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS

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B. Anthony Stewart

SYMBOLIC STATUARY FRONTING THE NATIONAL PALACE EXPRESSES THE SPIRIT AND HISTORY OF HAITI

Toussaint L'Ouverture, liberator of Haiti, is given the palm of victory by a countryman whose chained foot signifies the rise from slavery. Napoleon's strong army could not defeat Toussaint's brigades, but a trick led to the Negro leader's capture and subsequent death in a French dungeon. Haiti's presidents live in the gleaming white building (Bulletin No. 1).

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

HOW TEACHERS MAY OBTAIN THE BULLETINS

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Unrest in Haiti Hits Land of French-Speaking Negro Farmers

HAITI, scene of unrest following the overthrow of its wartime president by an army group, is no stranger to revolution. On-again-off-again internal strife in the Caribbean island state began virtually with its establishment in 1820. Haiti had thrown off its French yoke by that time and, after cleaning house of domestic Napoleons, became the world's first Negro republic.

Gradually mounting, political chaos reached a modern climax between 1911 and 1915. "Ballots by bullets" brought no less than seven luckless presidents into office at the capital, Port au Prince, during those four years. Then the United States Marines took the situation in hand. Haiti, smallest and most densely populated Western Hemisphere republic, became a temporary ward of Uncle Sam.

Columbus Discovered the Island and Made First Settlement

Lying southeastward across strategic Windward Passage from Cuba, Haiti occupies the western third of Hispaniola, only island in the world which is the home of two sovereign nations. Haiti's share, fertile but largely mountainous, covers 10,748 square miles, less than half the size of West Virginia. On it, three million French-speaking Negro descendants of African slaves compose a farm state half again as populous as West Virginia.

In the eastern two-thirds of the island, the Dominican Republic is crowded enough with little more than half as many people. Dominicans speak Spanish and a different background gives them little in common with their Haitian neighbors.

Discovering the island late in 1492, Columbus established a Spanish settlement, the first European colony in the New World, in the island's northwest corner near Cap Haïtien. Having wiped out the Indians by 1510, the colonists began importing Negroes as slaves. In 1697 Spain was forced to cede the Haitian portion of the island to France, whose colonist-planters exploited the slaves for a full century and grew rich in the sugar trade.

After several futile uprisings, the Africans succeeded in 1803 in routing not only the white colonists but an army sent by Napoleon as well. Haiti was free, the first American nation after the United States to gain independence from a European power. Much of the credit for Haiti's successful fight goes to Toussaint L'Ouverture, one of the most remarkable military leaders of the Western Hemisphere (illustration, cover). The spectacular Henry Christophe made himself King of Haiti, a title precariously held from 1811 until his suicide in 1820.

U. S. Marines Brought Order, Health Improvement, and Trade

The first leaders of free Haiti (Toussaint, Christophe, Dessalines) were ex-slaves. After 1820, however, control of the government lay with the small élite class. These were natives of mixed French and Negro blood, often Paris-educated, capable of speaking and writing pure French, the language of state records. The Negro masses, in contrast, speak Creole French, a written form of which has been developed only in very recent years.

Overpopulation stimulated revolutions and banditry, leading to intervention by the United States in 1915. Constructive measures for improving health, sanitation, education, and trade were imposed. Although the occupation naturally was resented, it brought a peaceful era that saw much of the development of the port-capital into a modern city of 125,000 people and the building of 1,800 miles of improved motor roads. Cap Haïtien and Gonaïves, next-largest communities after

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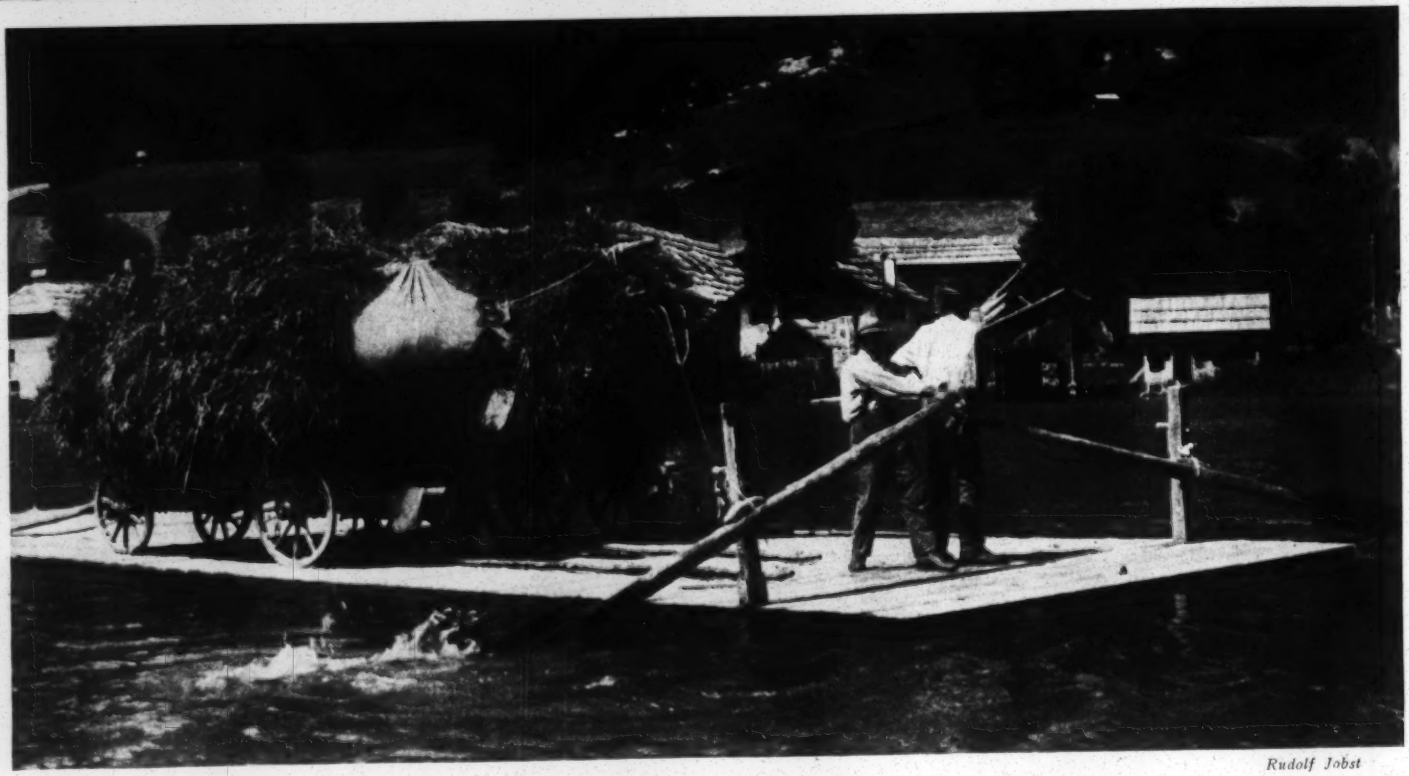

Rudolf Jobst

RAKED FROM THE SUNNY SLOPES AROUND THE WEISSEN SEE, MOUNTAIN GRAIN GOES TO MARKET ON A RAFT

Remoteness and lack of roads, which have helped preserve the natural beauty of Carinthia's mountain-lake region, have also retarded its development as a farming or vacation area. The Weissen See, in particular, remains largely unexploited. One hotel and the small wooden cottages at the edge of the lake housed peacetime vacationists who came to fish for trout and salmon and to swim in the waters whose natural cold is tempered by warm springs. One spur road leads from the long slim lake to the outside world. It joins a highway that crosses the Drau River to the northwest. Local farmers ferry their loads of grain across the lake on rafts propelled by oars fastened to posts near the front. Grain, chiefly rye and oats, is grown on the fertile land between the lake and the forested higher slopes of this southern Austrian province (Bulletin No. 3).

GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETIN

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Turkey's Area Adjoining U.S.S.R. Was Once Trebizond Empire

A NEWSPAPER campaign by citizens of the Soviet Socialist Republics of Georgia and Armenia for sections of Turkey's territory along the Black Sea apparently involves most of the old Empire of Trebizond and its capital, Trabzon (Trebizond), largest port in east Turkey. The areas demanded, which have not been specifically defined, appear to include a region extending indefinitely inland. The Turkish Government has insisted that the claims are not valid.

Through Trabzon passed trade between East and West as far back as early Roman times. It was one of the many cities along the coast settled by Greek colonists. The Greeks called the citadel Trapezus (table) from the tablelike shape of the townsite (illustration, next page). A high plateau with steep, stony embankments on both sides contributed greatly to defense in ancient times.

Beauty Becomes a Diplomatic Asset

At Trabzon in 400 B.C. ended the five-months' "Retreat of the Ten Thousand" after the Battle of Cunaxa, near Baghdad. Xenophon, the Greek historian, turned military leader on this occasion to conduct the Greek troops across Armenia and the mountains to the sea.

Their line of march from Babylon through hostile country covered old caravan routes still in use. Even in the present century, before the advent of the railway, as many as 50,000 camels a year passed through Erzurum taking Persian goods to the port of Trabzon. Trucks now carry merchandise over a 400-mile road from Tabriz, Iran (Persia), through Erzurum to Trabzon.

The Empire of Trebizond was founded early in the 13th century by Alexius Comnenus and prospered for 250 years. The beauty of the women of the royal family proved a diplomatic factor. Their marriages became international ties to strengthen the position of the Comnenian court, famed for its magnificence and culture. After many sieges, Trabzon yielded finally to Mohammed II in 1461.

With the coming of the Turks, many of the ancient Christian churches were converted into mosques. In the hills south of Trabzon is a large cave that housed a shrine to "Mother Mary" which was visited every August by thousands of Greeks. Despite their different religious beliefs, Turkish women flocked to the shrine to implore intercession against fever and other ills, even against locusts.

Turkey's "Siberia" Has Eight-Month Winters

South of Trabzon, at the foot of the Smali Anadolu Mountains, is Gümüşane (Gümüsh Khaneh), the Silver City, visited by Marco Polo when it was famed for its silver and lead mines. The mountains rise to 11,000 feet and more. To the southwest is Sivas, on the railway that runs east from Ankara through Erzurum to connect with the Soviet rail system. Sivas is noted for its rug and cement factories.

Sivas and Erzurum each had 33,000 residents before World War II. Erzurum is rapidly becoming a modern city, with a swank officers' club, little theater, motion picture house, library, high school, and a new post and telegraph office building. There excavations for a new hotel penetrated an old Roman sewer which was found to be still serviceable.

East of the Province of Trebizond is that of Kars, which has only ten miles of Black Sea coast. Its eastern boundary line with the Soviet Union passes

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Port au Prince, number 20,000 people each, thus emphasizing the republic's rural character.

In 1930 national elections were resumed, and in 1934 the Marines were withdrawn. Uncle Sam continued to provide Haiti with financial counsel and bought Haitian products to maintain essential foreign trade. Throughout World War II, which Haiti entered immediately after the Pearl Harbor attack, the republic's coffee, bananas, sugar, sisal, rubber, corn, rice, beans, and rotenone (for insecticides) helped relieve Allied shortages.

The average Haitian tills his plot of soil in one of the three east-west valleys or on slopes of the mountain ranges that cover two-thirds of the land and reach to an 8,790-foot top. He reads no papers, hears no radio, get his news at planting, harvesting, or home-building bees where neighbors help each other (illustration, below). His wife walks many miles to market, balancing a big basket of produce on her head. Little cash is handled in the family—perhaps $75 (375 Haitian gourdes) a year.

In 1939 and 1944, extensive amendments were passed to the Haitian Constitution, tending to increase the powers of the president. Election of senators, deputies, and mayors was discontinued in 1944 until a year after the end of World War II, and the president was empowered to fill vacancies by appointment. At the same time, the president's term, due to expire in 1945, was extended to 1951.

Note: Haiti is shown on the National Geographic Society's Map of Mexico, Central America, and the West Indies. A price list of maps may be obtained from the Society's headquarters, Washington 6, D. C.

See also "Bare Feet and Burros of Haiti," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for September, 1944; "Haitian Vignettes," October, 1934; and "Skypaths Through Latin America," January, 1931*; and in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, March 29, 1943, "French-Speaking Haiti Unique in Latin American Family." (*Issues marked with an asterisk are included in a special list of magazines available to teachers in packets of ten for $1.00.*)

Bulletin No. 1, February 4, 1946.

B. Anthony Stewart

FIVE HAITIAN NEIGHBORS HELP BUILD A HOME FOR THE SIXTH

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Problem Areas of Europe: 5. Carinthia

(This is the fifth of a series of nine articles about European trouble spots.)

CARINTHIA, one of central Europe's beauty spots, has become in recent years one of that region's chronic trouble spots. In the southeast corner of this southern Austrian province lies the rich Klagenfurt basin, focus of Yugoslavia's claims against Austria.

The basin around the city of Klagenfurt is rimmed on all sides with a high wall of the Alps. Beautiful lakes, like scatter rugs, are spotted over the valley floor. The Drau (Drava) River flows eastward through the basin, picking up many tributaries. One of these, the Gurk, cuts a narrow passage through the mountain barrier by which railroad and highway lead northward into central Austria and on to Vienna. South of Klagenfurt the railway tunnels the Karawanken Mountains and connects Vienna with Trieste on the Adriatic. Upstream Drau routes lead to Linz and Munich, while a downstream railroad and highway cut through mountains to Maribor in Yugoslavia.

Karawanken Mountains Become Yugoslavia's Northern Border

Klagenfurt, with 56,700 prewar inhabitants, is the capital, economic center, and largest town of Carinthia. Villach, 22 miles to the west, ranks second, with 25,700 people. These towns and regions north and west of them are predominantly German, but areas to the south and east have a Slavic majority. Hence the rival claims.

Since to have a border dispute there must be a border, the Klagenfurt basin did not become an issue until 1918 when Yugoslavia was formed. The north boundary of the new country ran along the towering ramparts of the Karawanken Mountains, a few miles south of Klagenfurt. Previously, Austria-Hungary had controlled Slavic lands far to the south of that border.

For this reason the "problem area" around Klagenfurt is still a child compared to many European trouble spots. As a mere babe in arms, after World War I, it had the task of selecting a guardian. By plebiscite the inhabitants voted to remain with Austria rather than join the new Yugoslav nation.

Nationality Only One Factor in Deciding Boundaries

The plebiscite, administered by the League of Nations, was organized to cover two zones. Zone One was the larger area immediately bordering the Yugoslav boundary, where 60 to 70 per cent of the people were Slavs. The smaller Zone Two took in the town of Klagenfurt and a strip east and west. In October, 1920, Zone One voted (22,000 to 15,000) to stay with the Republic of Austria. This result made unnecessary a plebiscite in Zone Two, as it was now surrounded by Austrian territory. A third sector, east of Zone One, was awarded to Yugoslavia without plebiscite.

The plebiscite indicated that factors other than nationality may enter into the settling of boundary disputes. Some observers believe that the Slavs in Carinthia who voted for Austria were guided by the fear that an international boundary line might be drawn between their farms and Klagenfurt, their logical market place.

Chief architectural features of Klagenfurt are the 16th century Landhaus and a cathedral of the same period, garishly modernized. Before the war the city's

through country described as one of the wildest and most mountainous tracts in that part of Asia. The interior region has winter temperatures as low as 40 degrees below zero Fahrenheit. It is known as the "Siberia of Turkey," with winter weather lasting for seven or eight months. As much as ten feet of snow may cover the countryside.

Much of the interior of the territory sought on behalf of the Georgian S.S.R. is a plateau whose reddish mountains bear the seared markings of volcanic action. It is largely treeless and suffers extremes of temperature, although it is no farther north than New York City. Opposite the Armenian S.S.R. rises Mt. Ararat, traditional resting place of Noah's Ark.

The Black Sea coast of eastern Turkey is hilly, cut by short, swift mountain streams, and aside from Trabzon's open bay is largely devoid of harbors. The coastal hills, especially in the extreme east, are backed by a continuous range of mountains rising to lofty snow-covered peaks.

The territory demanded includes some of Turkey's richest timberland and has much mineral wealth—coal, copper, lead, and zinc. The area bordering the sea has considerable rain and a moderate temperature that seldom drops below 40 degrees above zero Fahrenheit. It produces much tobacco, as well as fruit, nuts, sheep, cattle, dairy products, and fish.

Note: The area of eastern Turkey described in this bulletin may be located on the Society's Map of Europe and the Near East.

For additional information, see "The Turkish Republic Comes of Age," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1945; "Alert Anatolia," April, 1944; "On the Turks' Russian Frontier," September, 1941; and "The Transformation of Turkey," January, 1939*.

See also in the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS, October 29, 1945, "Disputed Kars Region Has Known Turkish, Russian Rule."

Bulletin No. 2, February 4, 1946.

Maynard Owen Williams

TRABZON GRACES A BLACK SEA HILLSIDE WITH CLASSICAL BEAUTY

Founded by the Greeks as a colony, this city in northeast Turkey still retains an ancient, brooding air. Tall evergreens, arched windows in straight rows, and garden-enclosed villas feature the seaward-sloping table of land which gave the city its name—Trabzon (formerly known as Trebizond). Sheltered by high mountains to the south and tempered by the sea, the port has a mild and humid climate. Trabzon lacks a true harbor and quays; steamers anchor far out and six-oared lighters (foreground) carry goods and passengers ashore.

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Western Samoa, New Zealand Mandate, Offered as UNO Ward

NEW Zealand recently became the first member of the United Nations Organization formally to offer mandated territory to UNO trusteeship when it suggested such a change for Western Samoa. Formerly German Samoa, the south Pacific territory is held by New Zealand under a League of Nations mandate issued after World War I. Samoa lies near the International Date Line, 2,030 miles northeast of New Zealand.

The Samoan group of islands is divided into east and west areas. Eastern Samoa is owned by the United States under the agreement drawn up by Germany, England, and the United States in 1899. In the 10 years preceding the treaty, Samoa had tried self-government, assisted, at times, by each of the three powers.

Samoans Are Related to Hawaiians

Western Samoa consists of Savaii, largest island in the group; Upolu; and the small islands of Manono, Apolima, Fanuatapu, Namua, Nuutele, Nuulua, and Nuusafee. Eastern, or American, Samoa includes the large island of Tutuila and the islets of Tau, Ofu, Olosega, Aunuu and Rose. All the islands except Rose are of volcanic origin.

An administrator appointed by the government of New Zealand governs Western Samoa. He is assisted by a legislative council composed of two Europeans and four Samoans. The population, estimated in 1943 to be 64,670, includes native Polynesians, Europeans, Chinese, and Melanesians. Samoa lies at the middle of the western edge of the great triangle of islands originally populated by Polynesians. Hawaii, New Zealand, and Easter Islands are the points of this South Sea triangle.

Savaii is the most westerly of the Samoas, and largest of all the Polynesian islands outside of Hawaii and New Zealand. About thirty villages are scattered along its shore line. The interior is covered with dense vegetation, and in the center of the island Mt. Mauga Sili rises 6,094 feet. Southeast of Savaii lies Upolu Island, fertile and thickly forested. Apia, on Upolu's north coast, is chief port and administrative center of Western Samoa. Four miles from Apia is Vailima, the home of Robert Louis Stevenson, essayist, poet and novelist.

American Samoa, 4,765 air miles from San Francisco, lies on the direct air and sea route to Australia. At Pago Pago on Tutuila Island the United States maintains a naval base, airfields, wireless and coaling stations. Pago Pago has the only good natural harbor in Samoa.

American Samoa Is Little Larger than the District of Columbia

Appointed by the President of the United States, the Governor of American Samoa is a naval officer. He, in turn, appoints native governors for the territory's three political districts. There are six judicial districts controlled by 40 native magistrates. The population, estimated to be about 13,000, receives medical care from the Navy. Natives direct 37 public and six private schools. Most natives are Christians; only a few are illiterate.

American Samoa includes a land area of approximately 76 square miles—slightly larger than the District of Columbia. Seventy per cent of it is forested. There are 34 miles of good roads on the islands.

Formerly called the Navigator Islands, Samoa is believed to have been dis-

factories turned out textiles, electrical products, tools, machinery, automobiles, and motorcycles.

Between wars a "brotherhood" festival was celebrated by German and Slav alike. The woodcutters' all-male dance was performed in the streets. On the post-office wall a tablet credits one Emmanuel Hermann, native of Klagenfurt, with inventing the post card. In 1869 he may have penned for the first time: "Having wonderful time, wish you were here!"

Klagenfurt is mainly notable as a point of departure for lake and mountain resorts in the region. Railway and streetcar connect the city with finger-shaped Wörther See, largest of Carinthia's Alpine lakes, two and a half miles to the west. A steamer zigzags from shore to shore, stopping at bathing resorts, hotels, and hamlets scattered among the woodlands and meadows that border the lake.

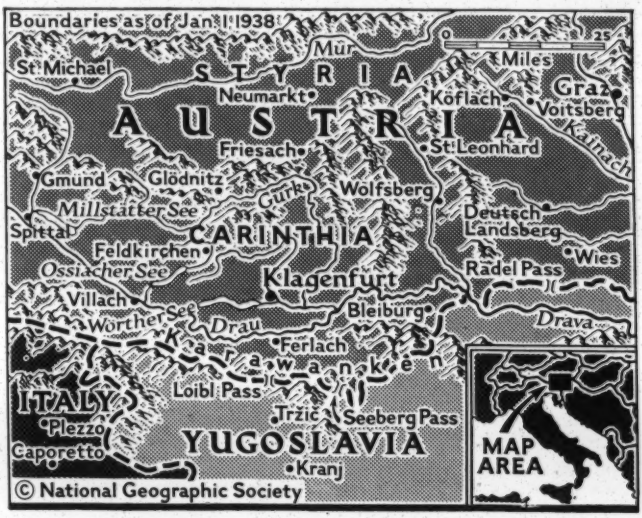
In peacetime summers vacationing Viennese thronged these hospitable villages. Velden offered dancing, swimming, fishing, and boating in all varieties of craft from outrigger canoes to yachts. Pörtschach, on the north shore, had numerous hotels and bathing beaches. Maria-Wörth, hamlet from which the lake takes its name, has further distinction in its two ancient churches. The oldest frescoes in Austria adorn the wall of one which dates from the 9th century.

Although nearly 1,450 feet above sea level, this inland Riviera has the warmest waters of any Alpine lake, thanks partly to warm springs which feed it. In early spring and late fall, when other lakes and villages of the region are often frost-bitten, the waters of the Wörther See, maintaining a temperature of 70 degrees, lure swimmers. Gently shelving shores are good bathing beaches.

Near by are two lakes nearly as large—the Millstatter See and the Ossiacher See, where the popularity of winter skating rivals that of summer sports.

Fertile and highly cultivated valleys around Klagenfurt produce grain (illustration, inside cover), grapes, and other fruits. Meadowlands intersperse the tilled sections. Iron, lead, zinc, and magnesite (magnesium carbonate) are mined in Carinthia.

Yugoslav claims since V-E Day are reported to include not only the Klagenfurt basin, but all Carinthia and even parts of adjoining Styria, with Graz, its capital and Austria's second-largest city. This entire region is a picture-book land of castles on mountain crags, monasteries in hidden valleys, and villages where local folk in gay costumes gather for festivals. The greater part of the population is clustered in small valleys near tillable land. The Province of Carinthia is not quite twice as large as Delaware. About one-tenth of its area lies within the Klagenfurt basin.



MOUNTAIN-GIRT CARINTHIA CENTERS AROUND THE LAKE-DOTTED KLAGENFURT BASIN

Note: Austria is shown on the Society's Map of Germany and Its Approaches.

See also "Austrian August—and September," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for April, 1938*.

See also "Soviets Reach Once-Great Austria, Reduced by World War I," in the April 23, 1945 issue of the GEOGRAPHIC SCHOOL BULLETINS.

Bulletin No. 3, February 4, 1946.

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Postwar Adjustments Set Pattern for 1945 Government Changes

V-E Day and V-J Day, both in 1945, marked the beginning of profound changes in the field of government all over the world. The end of the Third German Reich and the dismemberment of the Japanese Empire highlighted the many boundary and government shifts during the past year.

None of Germany's boundaries endure except as defined and approved by the Allies. In June the Allies announced division of most of the land comprising prewar Germany into four zones of occupation controlled by France, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the U.S.S.R.

Japan Reduced to Four Mainland Islands

Germany got a new bill of rights in a new law code proclaimed in October to the German people by the Allied Control Council. The principles of Anglo-Saxon justice distinguish the reforms.

Japan's government, from the emperor on down, has been allowed to serve as a medium for the exercise of Allied control. The authority of the emperor (illustration, next page) is subordinate to that of the supreme commander for the Allies. Japanese sovereignty is limited to the mainland islands of Honshu, Hokkaido, Kyushu, and Shikoku. Future of the emperor depends on the will of the Japanese people—to be made known through a free election.

Representative government was resumed in the Philippines in June with the first meeting of the Islands' Congress in more than three years. The scheduled date for proclaiming the independence of the Philippines is July 4, 1946.

The end of the war in Europe turned thoughts of royal refugees to their vacant thrones. Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands returned to The Hague. King Christian of Denmark emerged from voluntary seclusion and proclaimed Denmark's liberation. King Haakon returned to Norway after five years of exile in London. Norway's Storting (parliament) convened in June for the first time since April, 1940.

Poland Figures in Important Territorial Shift

The desire of King Leopold of Belgium to return to the throne was balked by action of Belgium's Parliament in making its consent necessary. Parliament also continued the regency under Prince Charles, the king's brother. Wartime leaders of Yugoslavia proclaimed the abolishment of the monarchy and its replacement by a federated republic.

At the end of the year the world's books showed many territorial debits and credits. Pending final settlement of Poland's western frontier at the peace conference, the Big Three powers agreed that the border should run from west of Swinemünde on the Baltic Sea along the Oder and western Neisse rivers to the Czechoslovak boundary. By a treaty signed in Moscow, the Soviet Union and Poland agreed on a new frontier drawn as much as 19 miles east of the "Curzon Line," a demarcation suggested by an Allied commission in 1919.

Poland's provisional government in Warsaw set up a Province of Danzig, including the former Free City of Danzig, and the neighboring Polish Corridor port of Gdynia. Big Three action turned over to the Poles the Baltic seagate of Stettin, German-controlled for more than two centuries. The Soviet Union leased from Poland a 12-mile-long, two-mile-wide tract north of Stettin, on the west bank of the Oder.

Soviet-China Treaty Highlights Far-East Developments

Austria's frontiers were restored as they were in 1938 before the country's forced annexation by Germany. Austria declared its independence and received recognition as a sovereign state.

Czechoslovakia ceded her easternmost Province of Carpatho-Ukraine (Ruthenia) to the Soviet Union. Transferred territory includes land once part of Hungary. Under Russian rule the territory has become the Transcarpathian Region of the Ukrainian S.S.R. Romania's government was permitted by Soviet Russia to take over control and administration of northern Transylvania, a former Hungarian territory which had been added to Romania in 1918.

Among the more important agreements affecting the Far East was the Moscow treaty with China. The Soviet Union recognized China's sovereignty over Manchuria and is to share with China the use of Port Arthur and the South Manchurian Railway, thus assuring Russia's Trans-Siberian Railway of an ice-free Pacific outlet. A further provision opened Dairen to world commerce as a free port, and made it a free import-export channel for Russian trade.

covered in 1722 by a Dutch navigator. There are no industries on the islands; their wealth is in fertile soil and rich vegetation. Although fruit and cacao grow as abundantly as coconuts, the only product exported is copra (dried coconut). Savaii has fine hardwood trees which the natives use for making canoes.

Samoans are linguistically and physically pure Polynesians. They are known for their excellent physique, cleanliness, and hospitality. They enjoy dancing and music. Food grows in abundance all around them. In the sea there are more than 600 varieties of fish. Samoans have little work to do and few responsibilities.

A plaited fiber roof on poles provides shelter. In bad weather fiber walls are used; at other times the sides are left open. The floor, raised two feet above ground level and surrounded by a ditch, is made of stones closely fitted together and covered with a layer of fine pebbles. This tropical home is almost bare of furnishings.

Both men and women wear lava-lavas—skirts which are tied at the waist. On important occasions men wear coats, but seldom bother with shoes. Ornaments and flowers add color to the scant costumes. Men and women tattoo faces and thighs with bone needles. Women spend hours working colorful patterns into tapa cloth (illustration, below).

The islands are subject to severe hurricanes and occasional earthquakes. Intense heat is tempered by the southeast trade winds. From April to October the weather is pleasant. The rainy season extends from November to March.

Note: The Samoan Islands are shown on the Society's Map of the Pacific Ocean. Large-scale insets of the islands are included.

See also "Samoa—Outpost of the U. S. Navy," in the *National Geographic Magazine* for May, 1941*; and "At Home on the Oceans," July, 1939*.

Bulletin No. 4, February 4, 1946.

Truman Bailey from Three Lions

SAMOAN GIRLS MAKE TAPA CLOTH BUT WEAR FACTORY-WOVEN GARMENTS

In one of the final steps in the traditional Polynesian process of making cloth from the bark of trees, these South Sea islanders painstakingly apply the geometric pattern. Sticky color is spread over the carved design on the board. Strips of whitish tapa, placed on the board, are fused together with wet taro paste. The pattern seeps into the cloth. Raw material of tapa is usually the bark of a mulberry shrub. With wooden beaters, women pound the bark up to four days. It gradually spreads out, becoming paper-thin and pliable.

Siam was recognized by the United States as a free, sovereign, and independent country. France granted semi-independence to French Indochina, chiefly through provision for the free election of a general assembly.

The Soviet Union made public in October a list of all election districts in the U.S.S.R. In the war period, the list reveals, five Soviet areas lost their autonomy—the German Volga Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, the Kalmyk A.S.S.R., the Checheno-Ingush A.S.S.R., the Crimean A.S.S.R., and the Karachayev Autonomous Region. Shorn of their identity and independence, these areas were carved up and distributed among neighboring administrative units.

Tannu Tuva, nominally an independent republic in the geographic heart of Asia, became the Tuvinian Autonomous Region of the U.S.S.R. The people of Outer Mongolia voted overwhelmingly in a plebiscite to break their ties with China and become an independent nation. France gave back to China the 325-square-mile leased territory of Kwangchowan, about 250 miles southwest of Hong Kong.

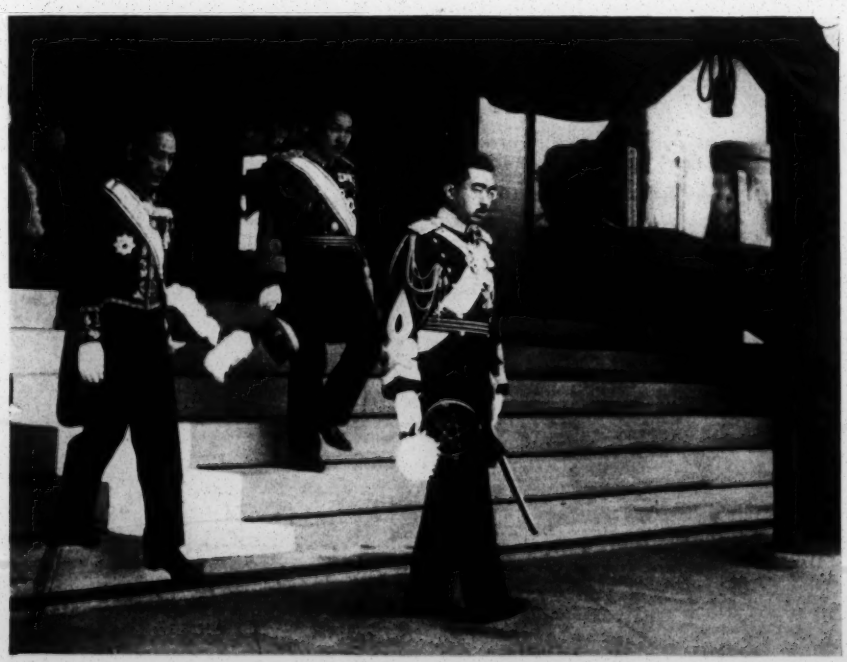
Seven Near-East countries joined forces in Cairo and formed the Arab League which includes Syria, Trans-Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Egypt, and Yemen.

Events in Latin America were highlighted by Brazil's first presidential election in 15 years. General Eurico Gaspar Dutra was chosen chief executive. A congress was elected to draft a new constitution. Brazil resumed diplomatic relations with the U.S.S.R. after a break of 28 years caused by the dethroning of the tsar.

Guatemala adopted a new constitution providing for a semi-parliamentary government; assuring freedom of the press, speech, and assembly; and authorizing woman suffrage and protection for workers.

As 1945 drew to an end, the Iranian Province of Azerbaijan set up a separatist government at its capital, Tabriz. The new Second Austrian Republic was approved by the Allied Council for Austria. Japan's wartime Diet (parliament) was dissolved, its record notably marked by a law granting the voting right to women and young men. In London the Preparatory Commission of the United Nations Organization voted to set up the headquarters for world peace in the United States.

Bulletin No. 5, February 4, 1946.



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JAPAN'S EMPEROR STEPS DOWN; HIS DIVINITY RENOUNCED, HE TAKES ORDERS FROM AN AMERICAN

General MacArthur, supreme commander for the Allies occupying Japan, transmits orders through the emperor and his government, retained in office for this purpose. Allied procedure differed in Germany where no responsible government existed at the time of surrender.